(f) whether the Government will be pleased to fill the posts by appointing Head clerks of the Department of approved service and merit?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—(a) In most of the Registry Offices there is no increase in work. There is also no increase in the income of the department.

(b) and (c) No.

(d) Yes.

(e) No.

(f) The existing practice will continue.

Revision of pay of clerks of Registration Department.

192. **Mr. K. S. Manickam.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) how many petitions were submitted by the clerks and Head clerks of Registry Offices since the revision of 1105;

(b) what were the recommendations of the Superintendent of Registration on these petitions;

(c) has he not recommended a uniform grade of Rs. 25—40 to clerks and Rs. 40—60 to all the Head clerks;

(d) what were the final orders on these petitions;

(e) were not the pay of several officers raised since the revision of 1105 ;

(f) what were the special reasons for raising their pay while denying the same to the clerks of the Registration Department alone?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.— (a) The exact number cannot be ascertained.

(b) Certain petitions were simply forwarded by the Superintendent of Registration without any remarks. With regard to the others, the Superintendent recommended the request.

(c) Yes.

(d) It has been ordered that the request for increase of pay cannot be granted.

(e) The pay of some officers has been raised since the revision of 1105.

(f) In the interests of service, the pay of some posts had to be revised.

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Mr. K. S. Manickam.—May I know why the increased pay was not granted according to the recommendations of the Superintendent of Registration?

Mr. M. P. Cherian.—The financial commitment.

Outbreak of pests in paddy lands in Nemmara

193. **Mr. R. Viswanathan Chettiar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they have received any petition from the people of Nemmara about the damage caused to paddy and other agricultural crops by the locust (പുൽപൊന്ത്);

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative, what action has been taken till now to prevent such damage?

(c) how far have the Government's efforts proved effective?

Mr. K. Krishna Warriar.—(a) There was no petition from the people of Nemmara. But in Karkadagam last there was a letter from the President of the Panchayat about a pest in paddy lands.

(b) The Agricultural Inspector and the Entomologist were at once ordered to inspect the fields and carry out the control measures. The methods of control were demonstrated in the infected fields and the ryots in the adjoining fields were also advised to carry out similar measures in case of a similar outbreak.

(c) The reported fields were in an advanced stage of infestation and the severity of attack disappeared soon after the measures were adopted.

മിസ്റ്റർ ആർ. വിശ്വനാഥൻചെട്ടിയാർ.— കൃഷിക്കു ദോഷംവരാത്തവിധത്തിൽ ഒരു ഏർപ്പാട്ചെയ്യുവാൻ ഗവമ്മെൻറിന്ന് ഭയവുണ്ടാകുമോ?

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. കൃഷ്ണവാര്യർ.— കൃഷിക്ക് ഉപദ്രവമുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ അത് ഉടനെതന്നെ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിന്ന് അറിവുകൊടുക്കുന്നതായാൽ ഉടനടി അതിനുവേണ്ട നിവാരണം ഗവമ്മെൻറ ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുന്നതാണ്.

Marketing Officers—work done by.

194. **Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what time has elapsed since the appointment of Marketing Officers in Cochin;

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